



- Legend**
- Location of a major bridge or tunnel crossing
  - Interstate
  - U.S. Routes
  - VA Primary Highways
  - County lines

Hampton Roads' natural assets have made it one of the busiest ports on the East Coast. The region is home to the world's largest naval base and is a summertime destination for hundreds of thousands of visitors. The Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) maintains eight major bridges and tunnels in Hampton Roads, allowing residents and visitors safe and convenient travel.

# HAMPTON ROADS Bridges and Tunnels

## KEEPING VIRGINIA MOVING

**Incident Management**  
 From Newport News to Virginia Beach, the VDOT Hampton Roads Safety Service Patrol Operators patrol over one hundred interstate miles 24-hours a day, seven days a week. Safety Service Patrols offer free assistance to motorists experiencing problems on major Hampton Roads arteries including the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (I-64), the Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel (I-664), the James River Bridge (Route 17), the Downtown Tunnel (I-264), and the Midtown Tunnel (Route 58). Patrollers carry gasoline, air, fire extinguishers, flares, jacks, water and other equipment to provide direct, on-the-scene motorist assistance and incident management. Call #77 from your cell phone for non-emergency roadside assistance.

**Traffic Management Systems**  
 VDOT operates traffic management systems on most of the Hampton Roads crossings. These state-of-the-art, computerized systems use remote cameras, monitors and road sensors to alert control room operators to traffic situations as they happen. With the use of these traffic systems, VDOT is able to inform motorists of possible delays and alternate routes through overhead message boards, radio broadcasts, and the toll-free phone number 511, reducing traffic congestion on the roads and bridges and in the tunnels.

**What to do if you're in an accident**  
 If you're involved in an accident without injuries or your vehicle breaks down on the interstate, Virginia law allows you to move your car to the shoulder of the road, out of the flow of traffic. On a bridge or in a tunnel, simply stay with your vehicle and wait for help to arrive. An incident team will be dispatched quickly, as the tunnels and most bridges are monitored. To call the police from your cell phone, dial #77.

**What to do if you are traveling with hazardous materials**  
 Motor homes traveling through tunnels must stop to have propane tanks checked before entering tunnels. There are specific regulations on transporting hazardous materials through state-owned tunnels. Contact VDOT at (804) 786-2848. Report hazardous materials spills and incidents to CHEMTREC at (800) 424-9300 24-hours a day.

**DMV Hauling Permit Information**  
 Restrictions apply to width, height, length and weight of vehicles traveling through Virginia. Please call the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles for more information and to obtain a permit. WWW.VAHAULINGPERMITS.COM  
 General Information: (804) 786-2787



**Where to get traffic updates**  
 Virginia Department of Transportation  
 general information:  
[www.VirginiaDOT.org](http://www.VirginiaDOT.org)



**Statewide road conditions, bridge openings and traffic information:**  
 Virginia: Dial 511  
 Out of state: (866) MY-511-VA  
[www.511Virginia.org](http://www.511Virginia.org)  
 To contact Police during an emergency Dial #77 on your cell phone.



**EZ-Pass Virginia toll-free number:**  
 (877) 762-7824 or (800) 828-1120  
 (for TTY users) 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
[www.ezpassva.com](http://www.ezpassva.com)



**Traffic:**  
 For carpool, TeleWork, van pool, guaranteed ride, express bus and park and ride information, or to learn more about other alternative transportation options, call (800) 700-RIDE (7433).  
[www.traffixonline.org](http://www.traffixonline.org)

**Traffic Information Radio Broadcasts:**  
 610 AM for Hampton Roads traffic conditions  
 530 AM for the Coleman Bridge



Also, watch for electronic signs alerting you to tunnel delays, traffic accidents and alternate routes



## Hampton Roads Bridges and Tunnels



For additional copies of this brochure, please contact  
 The Virginia Department of Transportation • Hampton Roads District Public Affairs  
 1700 N Main Street, Suffolk, VA 23434  
 (757) 925-2584 • [HamptonRoadsInfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov](mailto:HamptonRoadsInfo@VDOT.Virginia.gov)

# Hampton Roads Bridges and Tunnels



**George P. Coleman Bridge,**  
U.S. Route 17

The George P. Coleman Bridge is a double swing span bridge that connects Route 17 between Gloucester Point and historic Yorktown on the Virginia Peninsula. The bridge was originally constructed in 1952 as a two-lane bridge designed to carry up to 15,000 vehicles a day. In 1995 the bridge was reconstructed with four-lanes to handle increased traffic volumes. Almost one million vehicles cross the Coleman Bridge each month. Call E-ZPass at (877) 762-7824 or visit [www.ezpassva.com](http://www.ezpassva.com) for information on discount programs for frequent users.

**George P. Coleman Bridge tolls collected traveling south to north:**  
Commuters (E-Z Pass required) **\$.85**  
Two-axle vehicles **\$2**  
Three-axle vehicles **\$3**  
Four- or more-axle vehicles **\$4**



**James River Bridge (JRB),**  
U.S. Route 17 and  
V.A. Route 258/32

The 4.5-mile James River Bridge, Virginia's longest state-maintained bridge, opened in 1928 as the first connector between the Virginia Peninsula and South Hampton Roads. The JRB carries U.S. Route 17 and Virginia Routes 258/32 traffic between Newport News and Isle of Wight County. The original two-lane bridge was replaced in 1982 with a wider four-lane lift span bridge designed to handle increased traffic volumes. With nearly one million vehicles using the JRB each month, this crossing offers a smart travel alternative when the tunnels are congested.

To travel from I-64 on the Virginia Peninsula to South Hampton Roads over the James River Bridge, take the Mercury Boulevard, Route 258 Exit (exit 263) toward the James River Bridge. Continue on U.S. Route 17 to the I-664 interchange in Suffolk. The facility is toll-free.



**Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel (HRBT),**  
Interstate 64

The Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel is the oldest tunnel crossing for Interstate 64 in Hampton Roads. This tunnel system connects the Virginia Peninsula cities of Hampton and Newport News to the South Hampton Roads cities of Norfolk and Virginia Beach. The first two-lane tunnel opened in 1957 and a second opened in 1976. Nearly three million vehicles use the crossing each month, with volumes exceeding 100,000 a day during the tourist season. During heavy traffic, many motorists use the MMMBT on I-664 as an alternate route. The facility is toll-free.

**Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel restrictions:**

*I-64 West maximum vehicle height:*  
13 feet 6 inches (without permit)  
*I-64 East maximum vehicle height:*  
14 feet 6 inches (with permit)  
*Maximum vehicle width in both directions (with permit):* 10 feet 6 inches  
Wider vehicles must be escorted through the tunnel by VDOT personnel



**Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel (MMMMBT),**  
Interstate 664

The Interstate 664 Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel opened in 1992. This four-lane, dual-tunnel system connects the Virginia Peninsula cities of Newport News and Hampton to the South Hampton Roads cities of Suffolk and Chesapeake. The MMMBT typically has about half of the vehicular traffic volume of the Hampton Roads Bridge-Tunnel each day and is considered a practical, less-congested alternative. To travel from I-64 on the Virginia Peninsula to South Hampton Roads using the MMMBT, take the I-664 South exit (exit 264) and continue to the I-64/I-264 interchange. The facility is toll-free.

**Monitor-Merrimac Memorial Bridge-Tunnel restrictions:**

*Maximum vehicle height:*  
14 feet 6 inches (with permit)  
*Maximum vehicle width in both directions (with permit):* 10 feet 6 inches  
Wider vehicles must be escorted by VDOT personnel



**Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel,**  
U.S. Route 13

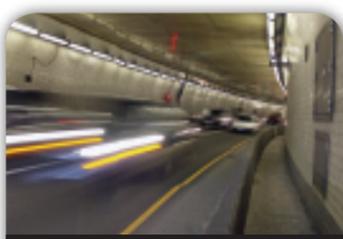
The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel carries Route 13 across the mouth of Chesapeake Bay connecting the City of Virginia Beach to Cape Charles in Northampton County on the Virginia Eastern Shore. Although not operated by VDOT, this crossing is a time-saving shortcut for motorists traveling from Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania and New York. Built in 1964, the 17.6-mile span is still considered the world's largest bridge-tunnel complex.

Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel's maximum vehicle height is 13 feet, 6 inches. The Chesapeake Bay Bridge-Tunnel is owned, operated, and maintained by The Chesapeake Bay Bridge and Tunnel Commission. For toll information and inclement weather condition restrictions, please visit [www.cbbt.com](http://www.cbbt.com) or call (757) 331-2960.



**Berkley Bridge,**  
Interstate 264

The Berkley Bridge opened in 1952 and is part of the I-264 Downtown Tunnel complex connecting the South Hampton Roads cities of Portsmouth and Norfolk. The bridge was rebuilt in 1991 to handle increased traffic volumes. The bridge also merges I-464 traffic traveling from Chesapeake with I-264 traffic in Norfolk. Each of the four leaves on the dual drawbridge weighs 640 tons.



**Downtown Tunnel,**  
Interstate 264

The Downtown Tunnel on Interstate 264 is the older of two state maintained tunnel facilities crossing the Elizabeth River. The Downtown Tunnel links the South Hampton Roads cities of Norfolk and Portsmouth. The first of two two-lane tunnels opened in 1952 and a second opened in 1987. Along with the Berkley Bridge, which connects I-264 and I-464 on the Norfolk side of the tunnel, the Downtown Tunnel carries more than three million vehicles a month. The facility is toll-free.



**Midtown Tunnel,**  
U.S. Route 58

Over a million vehicles per month use the Midtown Tunnel. Opened in 1962 as the second tunnel connecting Norfolk and Portsmouth, it carries two lanes of two-way traffic on U.S. Route 58 between the cities. The facility is toll-free.

**Downtown and Midtown Tunnel restrictions:**

*Maximum vehicle height:*  
13 feet, 6 inches  
*Maximum vehicle width:*  
Up to 8 feet, 6 inches (without permit);  
to 11 feet (with permit)



**Gilmerton Bridge,**  
U.S. Route 13/460

Located on Military Highway west of Bainbridge Boulevard, the Gilmerton Bridge crosses the Southern Branch of the Elizabeth River with a four-lane undivided twin bascule span. The bridge was constructed in 1938 and is operated by the City of Chesapeake. The Gilmerton Bridge currently carries an average monthly traffic volume of approximately one million vehicles.

**Gilmerton Bridge restrictions:**

*Vehicle weight limits:*  
14 Tons/28,000 lbs (Single Units)  
20 Tons/40,000 lbs (Semi-Trailers)  
27 Tons/54,000 lbs (Twin-Trailers)



**High Rise Bridge,**  
Chesapeake,  
Interstate 64

This concrete and steel drawbridge was built in 1969 on I-64 in Chesapeake. It crosses the South Branch of the Elizabeth River carrying more than two million motorists a month.

**Bridge openings and travel conditions**

Hampton Roads bridges open for water traffic according to federal regulations issued by the Coast Guard. Some time-of-day restrictions may apply Monday through Friday, excluding federal holidays.